

March 17, 2000

Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited
Attention: Shirley Ternyik
U.S. Agent for: Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals Inc.
600 College Road East
Princeton, NJ 08540

Dear Madam:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application dated December 15, 1998, submitted pursuant to Section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, for Pentazocine and Naloxone Hydrochlorides Tablets USP, 50 mg (base) and 0.5 mg (base), respectively.

Reference is also made to your amendments dated September 8, 1999, and February 24, 2000.

We have completed the review of this abbreviated application and have concluded that the drug is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted labeling. Accordingly, the application is approved. The Division of Bioequivalence has determined your Pentazocine and Naloxone Hydrochlorides Tablets USP, 50 mg (base)/0.5 mg (base) to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the listed drug (Talwin Nx Tablets, 50 mg (base) and 0.5 mg (base), respectively, of Sanofi Synthelabo). Your dissolution testing should be incorporated into the stability and quality control program using the same method proposed in your application.

Under section 506A of the Act, certain changes in the conditions described in this abbreviated application require an approved supplemental application before the change may be made.

Post-marketing reporting requirements for this abbreviated application are set forth in 21 CFR 314.80-81 and 314.98. The Office of Generic Drugs should be advised of any change in the marketing status of this drug.

We request that you submit, in duplicate, any proposed advertising or promotional copy that you intend to use in your initial advertising or promotional campaigns. Please submit all proposed materials in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Submit both copies together with a copy of the proposed or final printed labeling to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (HFD-40). Please do not use Form FD-2253 (Transmittal of Advertisements and Promotional Labeling for Drugs for Human Use) for this initial submission.

We call your attention to 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3) which requires that materials for any subsequent advertising or promotional campaign be submitted to our Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (HFD-40) with a completed Form FD-2253 at the time of their initial use.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Buehler
Acting Director
Office of Generic Drugs
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research